

TITLE

Boat Misting System

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

5 The present invention relates to a system for pumping water from a lake, river, or other body of water and aerosolizing the water into a cooling mist for the occupants of a boat.

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Several misting devices for climate control are known in the art. Sprung, in U.S. Pat. No. 4,788,791, describes a misting system for controlling the build-up of heat within greenhouses. Marcus, U.S. Pat. No. 5,330,104, 15 discloses a portable misting system enclosed in a food and beverage cooler. Edwards, U.S. Pat. No. 6,175,969 B1, and Crouse, II, U.S. Pat. No. 5,628,273, both disclose boat misting systems designed to cool boat occupants. However, Edwards' invention requires an on-board water tank and 20 Crouse's invention is directed only toward flexible tubing hung from a canopy. Neither inventor suggests that the

plumbing of a misting system can be concealed below deck or within the hull of a boat. Furthermore, the prior art makes no mention of an adjustable angle relative to the horizon head spray nozzle or of timer controlled misting cycles.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The primary aspect of the present invention is to provide an apparatus for producing a very fine water mist for cooling occupants of a boat or other water borne vessel. The apparatus draws water from a body of water and disperses it as an aerosolized mist over the deck portion of a boat through a plurality of spray nozzles.

Another aspect of the present invention is to provide spray nozzles that protrude from the boat hull and are each independently adjustable. The nozzle head spray angle and the pressure of the misting spray from each spray nozzle may be manually adjusted.

Another aspect of the present invention is to provide an aesthetically pleasing boat misting system wherein the

plumbing components are concealed below a deck or within a hull of a boat.

Another aspect of the present invention is to provide quick disconnect points where hoses may be attached to the 5 boat hull. The hoses would provide water to spray nozzles which may be attached to a boat canopy if desired.

Another aspect of the present invention is to provide a timer that allows for the cooling mist to be cycled on and off.

10 Other aspects of this invention will appear from the following description and appended claims reference being made to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification wherein like reference characters designate corresponding parts in the several views.

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a side plan view of a boat equipped with the preferred embodiment of the boat misting system.

FIG. 2 is a top plan view of the preferred embodiment of 20 the boat misting system shown in FIG. 1.

FIG. 3 is a schematic drawing showing the electronic components of the boat misting system, which draw water from a source and disperse it through a plurality of spray nozzles.

5 FIG. 4 is a cut away view of a boat hull showing the flow of water from an inlet to a spray nozzle.

FIG. 5 shows the connection of a spray nozzle to the plumbing components, wherein the plumbing components are concealed within a boat hull.

10 FIG. 6 is a front plan view of a control panel.

FIG. 7 shows a boat misting system with optional canopy mounting spray nozzles.

FIG. 8 shows a side plan view of a houseboat equipped with the boat misting system.

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Before explaining the disclosed embodiment of the present invention in detail, it is to be understood that the invention is not limited in its application to the details of the particular arrangement shown, since the 20 invention is capable of other embodiments. Also, the

terminology used herein is for the purpose of description and not of limitation.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

5 Referring now to the drawings, the preferred embodiment is shown in FIGS. 1-5. FIGS. 1 and 2 show the occupants 1 of a boat 13 being cooled by a misting spray 15. The misting spray 15 is produced when water (not shown) from a water source 2 enters the boat misting system 10 3 through a screened water inlet 4. The water inlet 4 is connected via supply piping 5 to a filter 26 and then to a pump 6. Pressurized water leaves the pump 6 through a supply outlet manifold 7.

Referring next to FIG. 4, the supply outlet manifold 7 15 moves the water through one or more reducers 8 before it enters a plurality of flexible supply lines 9. The supply lines 9 contain a multitude of fittings 10 in series. The plumbing components (4-10 and 26) are concealed below deck 11 or within a hull 12 of a boat 13. Spray nozzles 14 20 extend outside the hull 12 of the boat 13 from the fittings 10. Each spray nozzle 14 emits a misting spray 15. The

longitudinal direction **L** and pressure of the misting spray 15 may be adjusted via a swivel joint 16 and a mist control tip 17, respectively.

Referring next to FIG. 6, the misting system 3 is 5 operated by a control panel 20, which is in electronic communication with the pump 6. The control panel may be comprised of an operation control switch 25 and a timer 21. The operation control switch 25 allows the user to choose a 10 manual or automatic setting. The manual setting provides a constant misting spray until the operation control switch 25 is set back to a neutral position by the operator. The automatic setting works with the timer 21 to cycle the misting spray on 60 seconds, off 3-5 minutes. This cycle 15 will continue until the operation control switch 25 is set to the neutral/off position by the operator.

FIG. 7 shows an optional extension of the misting system 3 to a canopy frame 19 wherein quick disconnects 27 located near the attachment point of the canopy frame 19 to the boat 13 allow extension hoses 18 to be inserted between 20 the fittings 10 and the spray nozzles 14.

FIG. 8 shows the boat misting system 3 as it would be installed on a houseboat 80. The supply outlet manifold 7 is installed in the wall 81 of the houseboat 80 and the supply lines 9 are concealed within the roof 82 of the 5 houseboat. The independently adjustable pressure and adjustable tilt angle spray nozzles 14 protrude from the rooftop 83 as well as depend from the roof bottom 84 into the deck areas 85,86.

The preferred components for the boat misting system 10 described above include: a PVC supply outlet manifold, flexible poly-pipe supply line, a dc electric pump capable of producing 15 gpm at 60 psi, 180 degree brass swivel joints for adjusting spray nozzles with a 7 foot misting radius, a 12V pump control unit that may be operated 15 manually or set to automatically turn on the misting system for 60 seconds with an adjustable off time of 3-5 minutes, and 12 gauge insulated copper wiring connecting the control panel and the pump.

Although the present invention has been described with 20 reference to preferred embodiments, numerous modification and variations can be made and still the result will come

within the scope of the invention. No limitation with respect to the specific embodiments disclosed herein is intended or should be inferred. Each apparatus embodiment described herein has numerous equivalents.